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To the Editors and readers of the *Airpower Journal*

It is with great pride that the US Air Force joins in the celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Spanish and Portuguese editions of *Airpower Journal (APJ)*.

Since their beginnings in 1949, both Latin American editions have become widely read and respected by airmen throughout the more than 25 Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries of the Western Hemisphere, Europe, and Africa. The journals disseminate core USAF doctrine, strategy, policy, operational art and current issues. Both editions play a very important role in strengthening our relationship with their air force audiences. They also serve to educate, develop and nurture these officers as their careers progress. By shaping the dialogue among airmen, the journals bring them closer together across the geographical and cultural lines separating them.

The US Air Force is proud to contribute in such a manner to our mutual understanding and knowledge. My heartfelt thanks goes out to the many authors, military and civilian alike, who have contributed and will contribute to the professional dialogue. I encourage all airmen from this audience to actively participate by submitting articles, letters and comments for possible publication in either edition. Your contribution will help us be better-informed citizens of our respective nations, air forces and the inter-American air community.

It is my hope that the dialogue is so robust that it will last for many years to come, and that the Latin American editions of *APJ* will continue to enjoy the prestige they have gained over the years.

Again, congratulations, Latin American editions of *Airpower Journal*!


MICHAEL E. RYAN
General, USAF
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